
From: HJR153
Sent: Saturday, August 14, 2004 3:11 PM
To: HJR153
Subject: HJR153 - Laura Crumbley

Name: Laura Crumbley
Street: 2533 Link Road
City, State, Zip: Lynchburg, VA 24503
Phone Number:
Email:
Utility Type: all
Company Name: APPCO, Adelphia, Verizon
Comments: Re: Article in The News & Advance, Lynchburg, VA "State looking at future placement of power lines" by Conor Reilly

Get with it ... It will only be more expensive 25 years from now!

Electric bills are going to increase no matter what ... Natural cost of living being one reason and new technology another. Within 5 years cable and telephone lines will be all but extinct. The electric companies will be left all alone to shoulder the cost of maintaining existing lines. Cost of maintaining overhead lines must be exorbitant. Employee training, insurance, overtime, and benefits on top of materials.

Urban communities should be urged to bury their existing lines. Cities and towns would benefit the most. Fewer outages during storms. Civic beautification and increase real-estate values are known benefits. Citizens, unscrew 2 lightbulbs and bury a power line!

Here in Lynchburg within the last 10 years Rivermont Avenue has been dug up twice. First the gas company replaced lines and most recently the sewer replacement. Those were surely missed opportunities! Rivermont Ave. has been designated a Historical District. Victorian mansions sit on a tree lined avenue. The avenue completely strung with thick wires and dotted with poles. Large 100 foot tall trees set off-street 30 feet are the real culprits. When they go, they take a lot with them. Unfortunately, the trees under the power lines which have been whacked so severely, have become the more offensive eyesores!

One of our city councilmen is under the impression that when an underground line breaks it is too hard to find the problem. What would cause a break? ... Digging? ... Wouldn't you know where you were digging?

Most certainly all new lines should be buried ... For the reasons above. Underground lines (and in Lynchburg, in rock) are much easier to maintain. There are still hazards, but fewer.

Keep in mind, the electric company will not be sharing expenses with the cable and telephone companies much longer. Our electricity costs are going to go up ... way up.

Will we have more to show (or not show) for the escalating cost of our electricity?